

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 /030 W

-----021206 108752 /12

R 020836Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5819

CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS TOKYO 2911

USIAC

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: ASAHI OPINION POLL ON DOMESTIC POLITICS

1. THE 2/25 DAILY "ASAHI" REPORTED THAT ITS NATIONWIDE OPINION SURVEY IN EARLY FEBRUARY FOUND THE LOCKHEED CASE STILL, BY A SMALL MARGIN, THE MOST FREQUENT TOPIC OF CONVERSATION (NAMED BY 22 PERCENT). A HUGE MAJORITY OF 76 PERCENT SAID THE OUTCOME OF THE LOCKHEED INVESTIGATION LEAVES THEM DISSATISFIED, WHILE LESS THAN A TENTH (9 PERCENT) ARE SATISFIED WITH IT. ALMOST AS MANY (71 PERCENT) WANT THE INVESTIGATION TO GO ON IN THE DIET. ABOUT FIVE IN EIGHT SEE NO RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN THE CHARACTER OF POLITICS.

2. THIS BACKGROUND OF DISCONTENT WOULD HELP ACCOUNT FOR THE UNPRECEDENTEDLY LOW SUPPORT RATE FOR THE NEW CABINET UNDER PM FUKUDA--28 PERCENT SUPPORT TO 34 PERCENT ON-SUPPORT--WHICH THE POST REPORTED EARLIER. ANOTHER FACTOR APPARENTLY IS THE PLURALITY (44 PERCENT) EXPECTING PRICES TO CONTINUE UPWARD AND THOSE EXPECTING THEIR PERSONAL LIVELIHOOD EITHER WILL NOT CHANGE (48 PERCENT) OR WILL GET HARDER (37 PERCENT).

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EM FINALLY, A MAJORITY OF 69 PERCENT SAY IT IS A GOOD THING THAT THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS RAISED OPPOSITION PARTY POWER ONTO A PAR WITH THE LDP. BUT, 59 PERCENT DO NOT EXPECT THIS SUMMER'S UPPER HOUSE ELECTIONS TO REVERSE CONSERVATIVE AND OPPOSITION PARTY STANDINGS IN THAT CHAMBER. A SLIGHT PLURALITY

(44 PERCENT) WANT THE LDP TO REMAIN IN POWER,; - -&-8, 5 38  
PERCENT WHO WISH TO SEE A NEW GOVERNMENT COME IN.

4. THE DETAILED FINDINGS IN THIS POLL ARE AVAILABLE IN THIS  
EMBASSY'S "DADILY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE PRESS" DATED MARCH 1, 1977.  
MILLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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